



TOWN COUNCIL STUDY SESSION AGENDA
February 2, 2026
4:30 PM

I. Study Session Items

1. Canterbury/Bufaloberry Intersection Update - Williams/Tsurapas - 30 minutes

II. Staff Updates



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of Town Council

FROM: Tom Williams, Director Eng/PW
Jim Tsurapas, Chief of Police

DATE: February 2, 2026

SUBJECT: Canterbury/Bufaloberry Intersection Update

ISSUE:

Over the past few months, there have been two separate accidents involving students riding electric scooters to school along Canterbury Parkway. One of these accidents occurred at the Bufaloberry Drive intersection, which is located adjacent to Cimarron Middle School. Engineering staff and the Police Department have been reviewing the safety of this intersection, including performing accident/traffic analyses and preparing proposed alternatives to enhance safety. Staff will provide a presentation on these analyses and potential solutions for Town Council's consideration.

FISCAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

The financial impact could significantly vary based on the options implemented at the intersection. If the school provided a crossing guard, there would be no financial impact to the Town. If the Town installed a traffic signal, it would likely cost \$1M (or more), including various capital roadway improvements. There are also significant costs associated with annual operating and depreciation of a traffic signal. Providing an off-duty uniformed officer would be the most expensive option, since it would require a 3-hour minimum (each morning/afternoon shift) at \$85/hour.

BACKGROUND:

Cimarron Middle School (school) is located southwest of the intersection of Canterbury Parkway and Bufaloberry Drive. The school opened approximately 15 years ago and enrollment is currently higher than what the Douglas County School District (DCSD) originally projected. Although enrollment has increased over the years, DCSD has significantly reduced bus service, which has led to significantly more vehicular and pedestrian traffic at the school than was originally anticipated. Due to this increased traffic, the Town has installed/constructed several vehicular and pedestrian improvements on the roads adjacent to the school. These improvements include a traffic signal at the main school entrance and two (2) mid-block pedestrian crossings with rectangular rapid flash beacons (RRFBs). The Town also recently (last month) installed a new luminaire (streetlight) to improve visibility at the intersection.

Until recently, there have been relatively few accidents, with no pedestrian/bike-involved accidents on the roads adjacent to the school. Last Fall (2025), there was an accident involving a student on an electric scooter at the intersection of Canterbury Parkway and Bufaloberry Drive. The student was traveling west on the Canterbury Drive sidewalk, crossing Bufaloberry Drive, and collided with a vehicle entering the intersection. This intersection includes a striped

crosswalk parallel to Canterbury Parkway with stop sign control on Buffaloberry Drive. Although the school has provided crossing guards at the existing mid-block pedestrian(RRFBs) crossings, they have not provided a crossing guard at this intersection.

Due to the recent accident, the Traffic Engineering staff performed an accident analysis for this intersection, using the Diexsys Vision Zero Suite software program. The analysis included police accident reports from January 1, 2010, through June 28, 2025. There were a total of 12 crashes, with no pedestrian or bicycle involved crashes, during this 15-month period. Based on the analysis, this intersection (prior to June 28, 2025) was performing at a LOSS-II (Level of Safety of Service) indicating there was a "low-moderate" potential for crash reduction. This suggested the intersection had been operating relatively safely since the school opened.

Based on the accident analysis, the Engineering staff and the Police Department started evaluating what may have changed at the intersection that could have contributed to the recent accident. One of the primary changes that was identified is the proliferation of electric bikes and scooters on the Town's roadways, sidewalks and trails. Electronic bikes/scooters have resulted in an increase of accidents and injuries on roadways nationwide due to inexperienced riders and speeds. Staff have witnessed numerous e-bikes/scooters crossing intersections at high rates of speed with little caution. The Town routinely gets complaints from residents about the unsafe operation of these devices.

Staff has prepared a few safety options that could be implemented and will be discussed in detail as part of the presentation:

1. Request (again) that the school provide a crossing guard at this intersection.
2. Provide funding to the school to provide a crossing guard.
3. Pay an off-duty uniformed officer to provide traffic control at the intersection during morning drop-off and pick-up.
4. Enhance the Town's educational program with a focus on students operating e-bikes/scooters. Coordinate with the DCSD on any related educational initiatives/programs.
5. The intersection in its current configuration does not meet warrants for a traffic signal. However, the existing mid-block pedestrian crossing on Canterbury Parkway could be moved to this intersection, which would likely trigger the need for a traffic signal. This option comes at a significant initial (capital) and annual operating cost for the Town. A crossing guard would still be highly recommended at this intersection even with the addition of a traffic signal.

RECOMMENDATION:

Continue discussions with the school (and possibly DCSD) about the safety concerns and the need for a crossing guard. Although the school has initially refused our request to add a crossing guard at this intersection, staff believes it is the best solution.

REQUESTED DIRECTION:

Provide direction to staff based on the options provided to Town Council.

ATTACHMENT:

None